GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3503
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2016
Closed Tea Gardens
Rajendran Shri S.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has closed any tea gardens in the country especially in Tamil Nadu during the last two years;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to reopen these closed tea gardens and ensure that they function properly?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): As per information available, six tea gardens in West Bengal are, at present closed of which only one was closed during the last two years. The list of closed gardens is annexed. The Tea gardens have beenreported to be closed due to several reasons which inter alia includes, poor yields, poor garden management, excessive reliance of owners on debt with negligible equity infusion and general poor condition of the gardens and factories resulting in low tea quality and price realization.

(c): The Govt. of West Bengal has cancelled the lease of gardens viz. Bundapani, Red Bank, Surendranagar andDharanipur for handing over the management of the gardens to prospective buyers. The Dheklapara Tea Estate was officially liquidated by the Hon'ble Kolkata High Court. The Estate was put up for e-auction by the Hon'ble Kolkata High Court (Official Liquidator) on 11th May,2012, but no prospective buyer was available.

Annexure

Sl. No.	Name of the T.E.	Date of Closure	Area under Tea(Ha)
1	Dheklapara T.E.	11.03.2006	197
2	Bundapani T.E.	13.07.2013	530
3	Dharanipur T.E.	19.10.2013	265
4	Redbank T.E.	19.10.2013	369
5	Surendranagar T.E.	19.10.2013	172
6	Madhu T.E.	23.09.2014	323

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